

72.

(11.)

I Appoint *Thomas Newcomb*, and
Henry Hills, to Print this Informa-
tion, According to the Order of the
HOUSE OF COMMONS; And
that no other Person presume to Print
the same. *Novemb. 10th 1680.*

Wi W I L L I A M S, Speaker.

72.

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tion, According to the Order of the
HOUSE OF COMMONS; And
that no other Person presume to Print
the same. *Novemb. 10th 1680.*

Wi W I L L I A M S, Speaker.

THE
INFORMATION
OF

Francisco de Faria,

Delivered at the BAR of the HOUSE
OF

C O M M O N S,

Munday the First day of *November*,
in the year of our Lord, 1680.

Perused and Signed to be Printed, accord-
ing to the Order of the House of Commons,

BY ME

William Williams, Speaker.



L O N D O N,

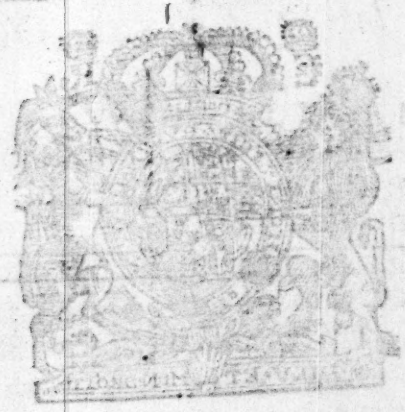
Printed by the Assigns of *John Bill*, *Thomas Newcomb*,
and *Henry Hills*, Printers to the Kings most
Excellent Majesty, 1680.

THE
INFORMATION
OF
Francisco de Larra

Delivered at the B.A.R. of the HOUSE

OF
C. O. M. A. N. O. N.
on Monday the First day of November
in the year of our Lord, 1880.
Petitioned and signed to be printed, accord-
ing to the Order of the House of Commons,

87...876
William Williams, Speaker.



LONDON.
Printed by the Agents of John Bell, Thomas Williams,
and Henry Hall, Printers to the House of Commons.
Excellent Master, 1880.

(1)

T H E
I N F O R M A T I O N

O F
FRANCISCO de FARIA,

*Born in America, Son of John de Faria
a Jew, of St. Giles in the Fields Gent.*

Taken upon Oath before Me Edmund

Warcupp Esq; one of His Majesties

Justices of the Peace in the said County

and City, in presence of John Arnold

Esquire, by Command of the Right Ho-

norable the Lords Committees, for Dis-

covery of the late Popish Plot. 26. Octob.

1680.

This Informant saith, That, being a Limner
in *Antwerp in Flanders*, in the year 1675,
by the persuation of Three of the Sisters
of *Sir George Wakeman*, then in the Nunnery of
Sta. Teresa, and of *Father Worsely* a Jesuit, he be-
came a *Roman Catholick*, and often Communi-
cated at his hand. And the said *Worsely* then per-
suaded this Informant to come into *England*, and
he would make this Informant happy, and then
gave this Informant 25 Pistols in Gold, to bear this
Informant's charges for *England*. But this Inform-
ant did not immediately follow him to *England*,

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but took up Arms, and was a Captain Lievtenant under Colonel *Montgomery*, in the Prince of *Orange's* Service, where he practised to make and throw hand-Granadoes, and grew to some note for that Service, and in the year 1678, this Informant being in *England*, and well versed in Seven or Eight Languages was preferred to be Interpreter and Secretary of Languages to *Gaspar Abreu de Freitas* Ambassador in ordinary from the Prince of *Portugal* to the King of *England*. To which Ambassador this Informant had been known for many years before, and the said Ambassador among other things, acquainted this Informant, that *Don Francisco de Melos* the late Ambassador that died here was much out of favour with the Prince of *Portugal*, for that he had indiscreetly pushed on, the Promotion of the Catholic Religion before a due time, and had caused several Popish Books to be Printed in *English*, which had given too great alarm, with many other things relating to the Popish Religion, which he greatly condemned him for; And the said Ambassador, to indear himself to the Informant, did often give him Money and intrusted him in Affairs of the greatest Moment, and carried this Informant with him, to all or most of the great Ministers of State in *England*, using him for his Interpreter; and employed this Informant to resort to several Persons for an account of the Orders and Passages in the Kings Council, of all which the said Ambassador usually had an account within an hour after the rising of the Council, or any Committees. And the said Ambassador, much about the time of the Trial of the Five Jesuits, expressing a great sorrow, for the oppression of the Catholics, did

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did with that *Oates* and *Bedlow* were made a way;
 And then commanded this Informant to go to
 Mass and Confession; and then told this Inform-
 mant, that he might do the Catholick Cause
 great Service, And might make his own Fortune;
 if he would joyn in destroying *Oates* and *Bedlow*,
 and that 50000 *Reales* of *orob* should be gi-
 ven for that Service; and that two sufficient men
 should joyn with this Informant for the killing of
Oates and *Bedlow*; But the said *Bedlow* being a-
 bout that time in *Ireland* the said Murder was
 deferred; and a report being spread, that *Bedlow*
 was dead in *Ireland*, the said Lord Ambassador
 said to this Informant, What a Fool were you!
 had you killed him, you had gained that Mo-
 ney which I promised; But afterwards under-
 standing that *Bedlow* was not dead, the said Am-
 bassador renewed his Solicitations to this Infor-
 mant to prosecute the death of *Oates* and *Bedlow*,
 assuring this Informant, That he would make
 good his promise of the said Sum of Money to
 them, which should kill them; That he would be-
 sides, pay this Informants Debts, and take this
 Informant with him into *Portugal*; Upon which
 Discourse, this Informant took the boldness to
 tell the Ambassador, That the Death of *Cassie*
 had done much hurt to the Catholick Interest;
 and he much feared, that the death of *Oates* and
Bedlow would bring greater hurt; To which
 the Ambassador replied, he feared not that; and
 if *Oates* and *Bedlow* and *Shafsbury* were out of
 the way, the Parliament might come when they
 please. Whereupon this Informant asked, How
 shall *Shafsbury* be killed? He replied, Lord
Shafsbury goes often into the Country, and I
 know you are excellent at hand-Grenadoes, you
 shall

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shall throw one of them into *Shaftsbury's* Coach, which will destroy all that are in the Coach upon the breaking; and you and your Companions shall also have Fire Arms to kill, if the other do not full Execution. And the Ambassador added, that he had provided Two other Persons, Men of Honour, to joyn with this Informant in that Service, but named them not, nor the reward that was promised to be given for it; And then ordered this Informant to provide a Man who could speak *French* and *Dutch* to carry a Letter into *Flanders*; Whereupon this Informant applied himself to one *Salter*, who keeps a Sempsters Shop in *Drury-Lane*, to carry the Letter. Who saying, he could not go, because he had Horses lame; which this Informant's Servant observing, said Sir, If you please my Husband shall go; But this Informant refused him as not speaking *French*, nor acquainted with the Country. And this Informant did (according to the Ambassador's Order) offer the said *Salter* 100*l.* to undertake the Journey, because he was acquainted with the Country, &c.

February last past, the said Ambassador left *England*, and returned to *Portugal*, leaving this Informant on a sudden with very little Money, after his many promises to take this Informant with him into *Portugal*, and to get the Prince to provide plentifully for him in *Portugal*. Upon which this Informant recollecting the said former passages, and fearing lest he should be accused, though innocent, went to his own Father, declaring the offers made to this Informant for the killing the Persons aforesaid; but his Father and Mother advised him to throw Ashes upon it, for none that have discover'd are secure, because

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cause some are of one mind and some of another; And this Informant then left a Note with his Mother, signifying that if this Informant were killed, it must be by the *Portugals*, and he would lay his Death to them, because of the passages aforesaid; and did the like with Mrs. *Mary Seares*, who finding this Informant in a very disturbed condition, observing that in his Frenzy fits he spoke of the Death of *Oats*, *Bedlow* and *Shaftsbury*: so far prevailed with this Informant when out of his Frenzy fits, as to make him relate the whole Story to her, who then persuaded this Informant to keep all secret, lest he brought himself into Troubles. But this Informant hearing about the 16th. of April last, That a certain Gentleman of note was wounded almost to Death, did recollect that one *Wyard* had tempted him to Bastinado such a kind of Person, which this Informant had before, viz.

In the beginning of *March*, told unto the said Mrs. *Mary Seares*, for an account whereof this Informant refers himself to his Information taken before Sir *Philip Mathews*, a Copy whereof this Informant delivered this day to the said Committee of Lords: And this Informant did also repair about the first of *May* last to the Earl of *Clarendon*, and in writing gave the said Earl under his hand, a Paper containing the matter about the wounding the said Gentleman, and hopes the said Earl will produce the said Paper, to which this Informant refers. To which this Informant added by word of mouth, That the Earl of *Shaftsbury* was in danger of his Life: to which Earl this Informant repaired, because he was going into *Flanders*, and fearing he might be accused for the wounding of the said Gentleman,

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man, during his absence, That that writing delivered to the Earl of *Clarendon* might clear his Innocency; And this Informant farther saith, That the Lady *Abergavenny* sent for this Informant into *Lincolns-Inn-fields* this last Summer was a twelve month; And then told this Informant, The Lord *Powis* would speak with him in the *Tower*: To which this Informant answered, He would; but acquainting the said Ambassador therewith, His Excellency forbid him to go: wherewith this Informant also acquainted the said Earl of *Clarendon*, who seemed to know the Lady *Abergavenny*, saying, She was his Neighbour; and he farther saith, That a certain Person came to the Ambassador, and in this Informant's presence, told the Ambassador, That one *Roberts* Porter to the Water-gate at *Somerset-house* was Apprehended, upon which this Informant observed the Ambassador to look very pale, and thereupon asked the Ambassador, My Lord, Is he concerned in this business with me? To which the Ambassador replied, He is a man of Courage, and will undertake any thing.

And in May last, this Informant's Brother, *Abraham de Faria* coming to *London*, this Informant told the Ambassador of it; Who asked if he were a *Catholick*: and being answered thereto, His Excellency asked if he were a Man of Courage. Whereunto this Informant replied, We are all well born and bred. And His Lordship replied, I would have him in this Affair with us, were I sure of him: and commanded this Informant to send him to him. And this Informant told his said Brother, that the Ambassador would speak with him. But this Informant was not with him when he went to the Ambassador,

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nor knoweth what passed between them. And this Informant saith, That upon the day of Sir *George Wakeman's* Trial, the Ambassador sent him in his Coach to wait upon the Lord Chief Justice *Scroggs*, and sent up word by one of his Gentlemen, That one from the *Portugal* Ambassador would speak with him. The Servant brought answer, That he could not see the Ambassador that day, because he should be engaged upon the Trial of Sir *George Wakeman* all the day. Which the Ambassador being acquainted with, his Lordship sent this Informant to hear the Trial. And this Informant stood by Sir *George* all the time, and gave him white Paper to write upon: and employed one Mr. *Cooper* a Scrivener in *Drury-Lane* to take in Writing the Trial, and gave him 20 s. for his pains: which this Informant delivered to the Ambassador; who immediately sent it to the Queen then at *Windsor*: with which, and a Letter, this Informant should have gone to *Windsor*, had he not been very weary. And that same night this Informant was sent to Sir *George Wakeman's* in *St. Martins-Lane*, to Complement him on the Ambassadors part: but he was not then come to his Lodging in *St. Martins-Lane*. So this Informant went next morning, and found him in bed with his Wife, and (as this Informant was Commanded) told him from the Ambassador, That his Fortune and Estate was at his service, and so was his Prince's; and the Prayers of the good Catholicks have prevailed for your delivery; and we are all bound to Sir *Philip Lloyd* for his Generosity to you at the Trial: and we are all bound to pray for him. Whereunto Sir *George Wakeman* replied, If it had not been for him, I had not been saved: and

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so we are all bound to pray for him. And I pray return my Lord many thanks for his Offers: and that he would wait on his Excellency that very day, to give him thanks for his Favours: but that he must first go to *Windsor*, to wait on the Queen: but at his Return he would wait on his Excellency. And Sir *George* then took this Informant by the hand, and said, I am sorry, Mr. *Faria*, that I had not the happiness to speak with you before: For I am informed what a Man you are; and that you could do great Service for the Catholicks: But alas! it is now too late. Thence this Informant went again, by Order, to the Lord Chief Justice *Scroggs*, to know when my Lord Ambassador should Visit him. The Lord *Scroggs* answered, That the Ambassador would do him great Honour to Visit him, but he was that day to go out of Town by One of the Clock. Wherewith the Ambassador being acquainted, he went about Twelve in his Sedan, with a Coach of State, wherein this Informant was, to the Lord *Scroggs* in *Chancery-Lane*. The Complement was in *Portugueze* (and this Informant Interpreted) to this effect: My Lord, I come to Visit you as you are a Minister of State; and am sent as Ambassador from the Prince of *Portugal*, to the King of *Great Britain*, and am directed to Visit you; and am likewise to thank you for the Justice you have done Yesterday to Sir *George Wakeman*. To which the Lord *Scroggs* answered, I am placed to do Justice, and will not be curbed by the Vulgar: and so I thank your Prince, and yourself for the great Honour you have done me. And this Informant farther saith, That a *Portugueze* came to him, when the Earl of *Ossory* was to go for *Tangier*, offering this Informant

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mant, that he might go with the said Earl, as his Interpreter, and should have 300 *l* per Annum for his pains. But this Informant reflecting, That the Sum offered was too big for that Service, believed this was a Snare to take away his Life. The same Portuguese offered him to go for Flanders, where Monsieur Fosse might prefer him to the Prince of Parma. But he looked upon that as a Snare also, and therefore refused. And this Informant saith, That about 6 Months ago he was assaulted by Two unknown Persons, with their Swords drawn; but he happily escaped from them. And farther saith not.

Francisco de Faria.

The Information that the said Informant gave to the Lord Clarendon, the 1. day of May, Anno Dom. 1680.

The Information of Francis de Faria of Com. St. Giles in the Fields, Gent. Taken upon Middle Oath before Sir Philip Mathews Bar. One of His Majesties Justices of the Peace for the said County, Assigned this 15 day of July. 1680.

THis Informant on his Oath saith, That about the latter end of March, or the beginning of April last past, a Gentleman who called himself Mr. Wyard, came to this Informant at Will's Coffee-House in Covent-Garden, and spake

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very kindly to this Informant, and desired this Informant to go to a Tavern and drink a Glas of Wine with him: Which this Informant consented unto, and went out of the Coffee-House with him, and desired him to go to the *Rose-Tavern* in *Bridges-street*: But he desired to go farther. At the *Horse-Shoe Tavern* this Informant desired the said *Wyard* to go in thither; But he there desired to go farther, and so drilled this Informant on into *Grays-Inn Walks*: Which this Informant consented unto. And in Discourse he there told this Informant, that this Informant had his Fortune in his hand. This Informant ask'd him, In What? The said *Wyard* replied, He knew my wants: If you will but Cudgel a Man, you shall have 200 *l.* One Hundred in hand, and the other Hundred when the Work or Business is done. To which this Informant replied, That that might be done by a Porter for a Shilling. To which the said *Wyard* replied, You may believe, by the Sum that is offered, that there is something more, to be done besides Cudgelling. And when you have done, you shall have a better Reward.

To which this Informant replied, He scorn'd such unworthy and base Proposals, and utterly refused to treat with him about it. Then the said *Wyard* desired this Informant to go and speak with the Lord *Powis* in the *Tower*. To which this Informant answered, That he had no business with the Lord *Powis*, nor the Lord *Powis* any with him, as he knew of. Who then shewed this Informant a Letter from the Lord *Powis* to this Informant: which Letter was to this effect, *Mr. de Faria, Come to me to the Tower, and speak with me: but let no body know who you are.*

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The said Mr. Wyard, when he found this Informant utterly refused to go to the Lord Powis, or to treat in the said business any farther, the said Wyard then told this Informant, He would meet this Informant in the same place on the morrow; and would then bring this Informant a Letter from a Person of Quality, whose hand this Informant did well know: and that this Informant had Papers then in his pocket, under the said Persons hand. And on the morrow the said Wyard did meet this Informant in the said place, and then shewed him a Letter writ in the Portuguese Language, which contained these words, being into English Translated.

Francis, *signed*

Do what this man bids you; for it shall be well done.

Subscribed G. A. B.

And this Informant farther saith, That he knew the Hand, and did compare with some Papers he had in his Pocket, then signed by the same Hand. But notwithstanding the said Letter, this Informant utterly refused to treat about the said business any farther.

The said Wyard then desired this Informant to meet him the next day again, and took his leave. And this Informant being desirous to know who the said Wyard was, and where he lay, followed the said Wyard down Chancery-Lane, and into Curfitors-Alley, and into several turnings, but lost sight of him. And the next day this Informant went to the same place, to meet the said Wyard, but the said Wyard came not; nor could this Informant ever since find the said Wyard, or hear of him, though he hath made a great and general Enquiry after him: But saith, He could know him again if he could see him. And farther, this

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this Informant saith, That He the same day declared unto one Monsieur Camasb, That he was offered 200 l. to Cudgel a man. And also saith, That being apprehensive that he might be called in question after Mr. Arnold was Assaulted, the said Monsieur Camasb having charged him with it, and with receiving of the said 200 l. This Informant went unto the Right Honourable the Earl of Clarendon, about the first day of May, and desired his Honour to take his Information in Writing, (this Informant being to go into Flanders) which the said Earl did; and this Informant set his hand to it. And farther at present saith not.

Signed, *Francisco de Faria.*

Jurat coram me,

Philip Matthews,

25 July 1686.

This last Information only was Sworn before

Sir Philip Matthews

and

Francisco de Faria

And this Informant further saith, That he

the Hand, and did compare with the

had in his Pocket, then signed by the same Hand.

And the next day this Informant

went to the same place, to meet the said Ward,

but the said Ward came not; nor could this In-

formant ever since find the said Ward, or hear

of him, though he made great and gene-

ral Enquiry after him: But saith, He could know

him again if he could see him. And farther,

And farther,

And farther,

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And farther,

And farther,

And farther,

And farther,

And farther,

And farther,

William Lewis's Information

Lewis die November 18. 1880.

Ordered

Has Mr. Lewis have leave of this House
to Print his Information this day given
in at the Bar of this House.

William Goldsmith
Clerk. Dom. Cons.

By virtue of this Order above mention-
ed, I do appoint Randal Taylor, near
Stationers-Hall, to Print my Informa-
tion, and that no other Person or Persons
do Print the same.

William Lewis

Printed
1880